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Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-10 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01

CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00

DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FEAE-00 FMC-02 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-02 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

SAL-01 EA-09 /151 W
---------- 075788
P R 221842Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7994
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY OSLO

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STATE FOR OES/OFA; PASS COMMERCE/NOAA/WALLACE AND
NMFS/BLONDIN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, NEAFC
SUBJECT: NORTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION
(NEAFC) OPENING SESSION

1. AFTER FORMAL OPENING OF CURRENT MEETING, EC REPRESENTATIVE GAVE THE PREPARED ATTACHED STATEMENT. NORWEGIAN DELEGATION REQUESTED TIME TO STUDY STATEMENT. AFTER BREAK THE CHAIRMAN ATTEMPTED TO CONTINUE WITH ITEMS ON AGENDA WHICH PERTAINED TO ALLOCATIONS OF NORTH SEA HERRING. EASTERN BLOC CONCURRED BUT EC REPRESENTATIVE THEN REQUESTED A FOUR-HOUR BREAK DURING
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WHICH DELEGATES FROM MEMBER EC COUNTRIES WOULD MEET FOR

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A STRATEGY DISCUSSION. COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULED TO RESUME AT 4:00 P.M ; THE AGENDA ITEM TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF NEAFC WAS POSTPONED UNTIL TOMORROW MORNING.

2. STATEMENT BY EC REPRESENTATIVE TO NEAFC READS AS FOLLOWS: I HAVE ASKED FOR THE FLOOR AT THE START OF OUR MEETING IN ORDER TO MAKE A STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF

THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, WHICH WILL, I BELIEVE, HAVE A CONSIDERABLE BEARING ON OUR WORK HERE THIS WEEK.

IN VIEW OF THE DECISIONS TAKEN BY A NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF NEAFC AND OTHER COUNTRIES, IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE COMMUNITY'S LEGITIMATE INTERESTS IN THE MARITIME REGIONS MOST THREATENED BY THE CONSEQUENCES OF THESE STOPS TO EXTEND FISHING ZONES, AND BASING ITSELF ON THE GUIDELINES WHICH ARE EMERGING WITHIN THE THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LAW OF THE SEA, THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE COMMUNITY AGREED EARLIER THIS MONTH ON THE CREATION OF A 200-MILE ZONE IN THE COMMUNITY EFFECT FROM 1 JANUARY 1977. IN THE RESOLUTION WHICH IT ADOPTED THE COUNCIL AGREED THAT, AS FROM 1 JANUARY 1977, MEMBER STATES WOULD, BY MEANS OF CONCERTED ACTION, EXTEND THE LIMITS OF THEIR FISHING ZONES TO 200 MILES OFF THEIR NORTH SEA AND NORTH ATLANTIC COASTS.

THESE ACTIONS OF EXTENDING FISHING LIMITS INVOLVE A CHANGE IN THE SITUATION WHICH HAS PREVAILED UP UNTIL NOW. IN THE RESULT MANY MEMBER STATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS AS WELL AS OF NEAFC, ARE ENGAGED IN BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS TO RESOLVE CERTAIN PROBLEMS WHICH ARISE. FOR EXAMPLE, CONVERSATIONS OR NEGOTIATIONS ARE TAKING PLACE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES ON THE ONE HAND, AND SPAIN, THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, POLAND AND THE USSR, AS WELL AS JAPAN ON THE OTHER. NORWAY IS ENGAGED IN A SERIES OF NEGOTIATIONS. THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, FOR ITS PART, IS ALSO ENGAGED IN CONVERSATIONS OR NEGOTIATIONS WITH, AMONG OTHERS, THE UNITED STATES. NORWAY, SPAIN, THE FAEROES, FINLAND AND SWEDEN. BECAUSE OF THE CHANGE JUST MENTIONED STRESS WAS LAID
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IN THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON THE DESIRE OF THE COMMUNITY TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES WISHING TO FISH IN COMMUNITY WATERS. THIS RESOLUTION WAS DULY DRAWN TO THE ATTENTION OF THE THIRD STATES CONCERNED AND IT WAS NOTIFIED TO THE UNITED NATIONS. THE COMMUNITY THUS STANDS READY TO NEGOTIATE WITH ALL COUNRTIES CONCERNED, IN ADDITION TO THOSE I HAVE MENTIONED.

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THERE ARE, HOWEVER, TWO POINTS WHICH NEED TO BE NOTED IN THIS REGARD. FIRST, FISHING IN THE COMMUNITY ZONE BY THIRD STATES, AS FROM 1 JANUARY 1977, WILL BE GOVERNED BY AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND THE THIRD STATES CONCERNED. SECONDLY, THOSE AGREEMENTS MUST BE NEGOTIATED WITH THE COMMUNITY AS SUCH. THE MEMBER STATES, IN THE EXERCISE OF THEIR SOVEREIGNTY, HAVE DELEGATED POWERS IN THIS RESPECT TO THE COMMUNITY.

IT FOLLOWS FROM WHAT I HAVE SAID, MR. CHAIRMAN, THAT THE RIGHTS OF ACCESS BY THE THIRD COUNTRIES TO THE COMMUNITY 200-MILE FISHERY ZONE MUST BE NEGOTIATED BY BI-

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LATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE COMMUNITY. IT WILL THEREFORE BE NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND THE THIRD COUNTRIES WHO WISH TO HAVE ACCESS TO COMMUNITY WATERS AFTER JANUARY 1, 1977. THESE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS WOULD NEED TO BE SUPPLEMENTED BY FISHING RIGHTS, SPECIFIC QUOTAS ETC. THE COMMUNITY HOPES THAT THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE NEAFC WILL ENABLE PROGRESS TO BE MADE TOWARDS INTERIM SOLUTIONS WHICH THE COMMUNITY AND THE THIRD COUNTRIES CONCERNED COULD REACH.

THE PRESENT SESSION ALSO HAS ON ITS AGENDA THE QUESTION OF THE FUTURE OF NEAFC. THE TASK OF NEAFC SINCE ITS UNCLASSIFIED

INCEPTION HAS BEEN A DIFFICULT ONE. I WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY NOT ONLY TO THANK THE OFFICIALS AND SERVICES OF THE NEAFC FOR THEIR PAST EFFORTS, BUT TO EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT THESE WILL CONTINUE INTO THE FUTURE IN A FORMAT APPROPRIATE TO FUTURE CONDITIONS. WHAT ITS FUTURE ROLE WILL BE IS A MATTER WHICH NOW REQUIRES TO BE NEGOTIATED. I AM SATISFIED THAT IT WILL BE AN IMPORTANT AND USEFUL ROLE AND THE COMMUNITY, WHICH WILL EXPECT TO BE A MEMBER OF NEAFC, WILL MAKE AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO IT.

IT WOULD BE OUR HOPE, MR. CHAIRMAN, THAT OTHER STATES WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS WITH THE COMMUNITY IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHAT ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE BOTH FOR THE IMMEDIATE AND MORE LONG-TERM FUTURE. THE BASIS CAN THUS BE LAID FOR EXAMINING THE PROBLEMS REGARDING FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT WHICH HAVE BEEN OF CONCERN TO ALL DELEGATIONS HERE PRESENT FOR SO MANY YEARS.

IN CONCLUSION, MR. CHAIRMAN, I SHOULD LIKE, FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF DELEGATES TO REQUEST THE CIRCULATION OF MY STATEMENT AND OF THE RESOLUTION TO WHICH I REFERRED.

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